

Study to assess how higher education can best deliver programs, services

Following a recommendation from Ann Daley, executive director, the Higher Education Coordinating Board has authorized a joint task force to study how the state's two- and four-year institutions will deliver higher education programs and services in the next decade and beyond.

The task force will be composed of representatives from the HECB, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Council of Presidents, and the Independent Colleges of Washington.

Members are charged with developing a new process for determining when and where to build new campuses, expand programs or alter institutional missions to keep pace with increased demand. The task force will report its findings to the Board in fall 2009.

Kitsap consultant recommends two centers

The HECB is seeking public comment on a consultant's draft report proposing the creation of two new higher education centers in the Kitsap County region.

The report notes that Peninsula and Olympic colleges serve the region about equally, and proposes building centers – affiliated with a parent or principal baccalaureate institution – on both campuses. The Kitsap region encompasses nearly 5,000 square miles and is home to about 400,000 people.

The final report and recommendations will be on the agenda for action at the HECB's November meeting. The report is due to the Legislature by December 1. Send comments to: bcnored@aol.com
[Read more»](#)

Report tracks less-than-halftime need

Many low-income students are able to take only a few college credits per semester. Work, family obligations, disabilities or other life circumstances can limit their participation. Until recently, these students have not been eligible to receive state financial aid.

In 2005, the Legislature authorized a pilot program at 10 institutions for less-than-halftime State Need Grants. In 2007, the program was extended to all 68 State Need Grant-eligible institutions. A report on the program required by the Legislature indicates there is continuing unmet need among these students despite the program expansion.
[Read more»](#)

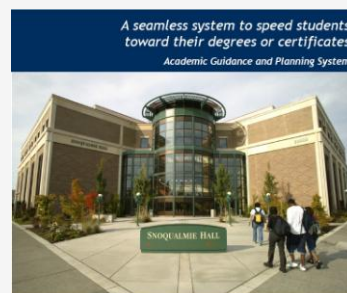
OFM report looks at per-student funding

The 2007 Legislature directed OFM to determine the amount of per-student funding needed for Washington to reach the 60th percentile of funding for comparable Global Challenge States by 2017. An OFM report shared with the HECB notes that per-student increases of from four to eight percent annually will be needed at the state's four-year public institutions to reach the Global Challenge State benchmark.
[Read more»](#)

WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

Oct. 28-29 Board Meeting in Seattle

Board meets with Advisory Council to discuss Master Plan implementation strategy. Page 2



HECB partners with community and technical colleges to propose a system for preventing costly mistakes in college degree planning.
[New factsheet provides details.](#)

[State's 34 community and technical colleges report strong enrollment growth spurred by desire for new job training. Level of growth not seen since 1970s.](#)

[Financial aid helps students remain focused on books, new research suggests.](#)

UW-North talks continue

Parties supporting alternate locations for a proposed UW North branch campus have been holding productive discussions, according to Bill Wilkerson, the mediator hired by the HECB to seek a consensus on the site.

Wilkerson will report the results of those discussions at the HECB's November meeting. The HECB will advise the Legislature if an agreement has been reached. The new branch campus would serve the Snohomish, Island, and Skagit Counties region. [Read more](#)».

Graduate tuition-setting authority sought

The HECB will propose legislation in the 2009 session to continue the practice of allowing the state's public colleges and universities to set their own graduate tuition rates.

Tuition-setting authority allows the institutions the flexibility to respond to market forces and other dynamic factors influencing the costs of graduate education. The law permitting this authority expires at the end of this academic year. The proposed legislation would not affect undergraduate tuition rates, which are set by the Legislature.

Board, advisory council discuss new priorities for higher education progress

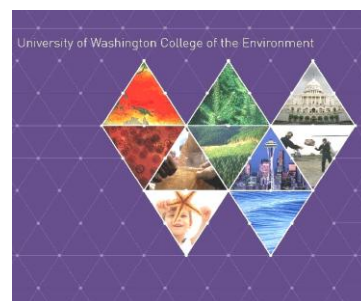
Members of the higher Education Coordinating Board and its Advisory Council heard reports on the priorities and strategies needed to implement the goals of the 2008 Strategic Master Plan.

Key implementation priorities include:

- *Focus first on students* by engaging, motivating and preparing all K-12 students to participate and succeed in postsecondary education.
- *Preserve progress* in funding achieved in the last two biennium and lay the groundwork for expanded enrollments later in the decade.
- *Target under-served regions and under-represented groups* to raise the level of participation statewide.
- *Expand on demand* by revising institutional missions, supporting new modes of course delivery, developing alternative degree pathways and adding or renewing facilities in response to increased demand.
- *Eliminate cost as a barrier* to achieving a degree or certificate.
- *Emphasize accountability* for student success; institutional goals.

[View the full reports](#)»

WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD



The University of Washington says its new College of the Environment will consolidate the university's already extensive environmental offerings and help the UW achieve its goal of becoming the preeminent research university on environmental issues in the world. [Read more](#).

HECB applauds Dr. Cynthia Morana for years of service to the Council of Presidents and Washington's higher education community. Morana will retire in December. [See Resolution](#)

Mark your calendars:

The HECB will hold its next board meeting Nov. 20-21 at the Seatac Hilton.

Check back next week for agenda items at:

www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp